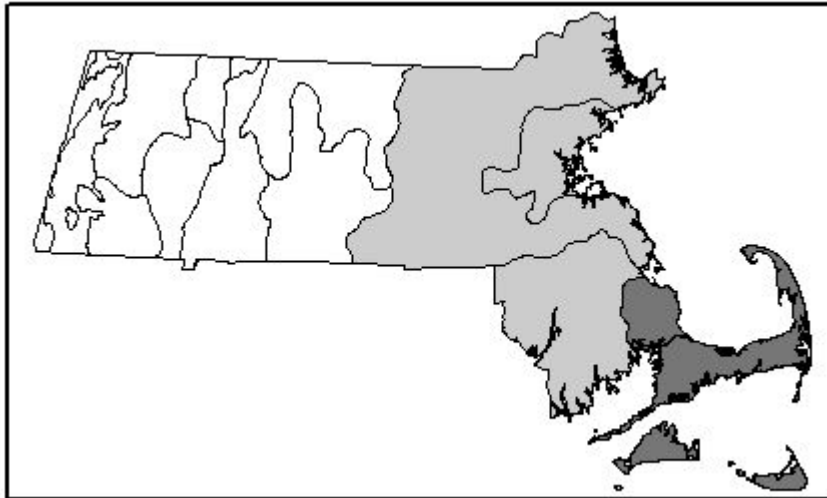


Community Name: MARITIME PITCH PINE ON DUNES

Community Code: CT2A1A1200

SRANK: S1



Concept: Scattered pitch pines on active sand dunes, many with trunks at least partially buried. Open canopy with bare ground and scattered shrubs, herbaceous plant, and patches of lichen.

Environmental Setting: The community occurs on moderately stabilized back dunes where storms produce active sand movement. The areas receive salt spray during storms and strong winds, but not on a daily basis.

Vegetation Description: Short, scattered individuals of Pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*) dominates the tree layer. Open sand has scattered beach heather (*Hudsonia tomentosa*), bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), and patches of lichen.

Associations:

Habitat Values for Associated Fauna: There are no animal species known to be restricted to maritime forests. The open Pitch Pine areas are particularly harsh and exposed, and support fewer animals than more closed communities. Generally, in more salt influenced environments, fewer animals will be expected. As in all communities on peninsulas such as Cape Cod, or on islands, the more remote occurrences have fewer species than those closer to the mainland sources. Moths, butterflies, and other insects of the southeastern oak-pine forest occur in maritime forests.

Associated Rare Plants:

NONE KNOWN

Associated Rare Animals:

NONE KNOWN

Examples with Public Access: Sandy Neck, Barnstable; Provincelands, Provincetown.

Threats:

Management Needs:

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Synonyms

USNVC/TNC: Pinus rigida Woodland Alliance -- Pinus rigida / Hudsonia tomentosa Woodland [CEGL006117] Pinus rigida - Quercus (*coccinea*, *velutina*) Woodland Alliance -- Pinus rigida - Quercus velutina / Hudsonia tomentosa Woodland [CEGL006120].

MA (old name): MARITIME FOREST, DUNE SUBTYPE.

ME: Pitch Pine - Dune Semi forest Community.

NH: Part of: 1998 Maritime Dune Forest/Woodland; 1994 - Maritime Forest on Dunes.

VT: Not applicable.

NY: Maritime pitch pine dune woodland.

CT: Part of: Pinus rigida - Quercus stellata Woodland.

RI: Within the Pitch Pine - Oak Forest and Oak - Pine Forest. And part of Maritime Shrubland.

Weatherbee: Not applicable.

Author: P. Swain

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